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December 15, 2004  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PCT NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION OF  
EBERLE, ET AL.

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/EP03/06482

U.S. APPLICATION NO: NOT YET ASSIGNED

35 USC §371 DATE: HEREWITH

FOR: ALPHA-SULFONYLAMINO-ACETONITRILES

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

**Page 1, before the first line of the specification, please add:**

"This application is a 371 of International Application No. PCT/EP03/06482 filed June 18, 2003, which claims priority to GB 0214116.6 filed June 19, 2002, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference."